



LAC LA BELLE MANAGEMENT DISTRICT

www.llbmd.org

Commissioners Meeting
THURSDAY, April 17, 2014– 7:00 P.M.

Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall

6812 Brown Street
Oconomowoc, WI 53066

“The LLBMD seeks to promote environmentally conscious and fiscally responsible decisions by providing education, enhancing a healthy lake ecosystem and ensuring safe use of Lac La Belle for today and tomorrow.”

Agenda

1. Call to Order

Paul Carpenter called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M.

2. Roll Call of Commissioners

Present

Paul Carpenter

K. Carr

Dan Bauer

Lou Morgan

Dave Zimmermann

Absent

Mike Fitzsimmons

3. Comments from the Floor

There was no one present wishing to speak at this time.

4. Correspondence

Emails

Various emails from Kathy Buss, City of Oconomowoc, regarding lake levels:
(2/28, 3/5, 3/18 and 4/17)

February 21, 2014 - Lisa Conley re: Lakes Convention, Eco Municipalities, Nicaragua, More!

February 25, 2014 – Jeff Hermann re: Mary Lane Court Lac La Belle Public Access/ Daniel

Mikulecky

March 3, 2014 – Mark Mickelson re: Construction Status

March 11, 2014 – George Stumpf re: LLB Golf Course Stream Project

March 13, 2014 – LLB Water levels

March 17, 2014 – Mark Mickelson re: Construction Status

March 17, 2014 – Ben Heussner re: LLB Contract Fisherman

March 18, 2014 – Bonnie Lewis-Tschannen re: 2014 Newsletter Article (Light Up the Lake)

March 24, 2014 – Ben Heussner re: LLB Contract Fisherman

March 28, 2014 - Bonnie Lewis-Tschannen re: 2014 Newsletter Article (Light Up the Lake)

April 1, 2014 – Chris Koehnke re: LLB Golf Course Stream Project

April 3, 2014 – Mark Mickelson re: LLB Golf Course Stream Project

April 7, 2013 – Lisa Reas re: Invoice for 2013 Shoreland Restoration

April 14, 2014 – Anonymous (phone call to PC) re: LLB Water Levels

April 17, 2014 – Mark Mickelson re: Construction Status

5. Approval of Minutes

D. Bauer moved to approve the minutes from the February 20, 2014 LLBMD meeting as presented. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

6. Review of 2013 Special Meeting Minutes

The Commissioners reviewed the 2013 Special Meeting Minutes. There were no corrections noted.

7. Treasurer's Report

P. Carpenter provided a brief review of the Treasurer's Report for March & April, 2014.

L. Morgan moved to approve the Treasurer's Reports for March & April as presented. D. Bauer seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

8. Payment Authorizations

In the absence of M. Fitzsimmons, P. Carpenter reviewed the payment authorizations for the Commission.

D. Bauer moved to approve the Payment Authorizations for March & April 2014 as presented. L. Morgan seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

9. Update on Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project - Golf Course Stream

An update was provided to the Commission from the correspondence sent by Mark Mickelson, of Yaggy Colby, to the Commissioners. Clarification was requested regarding the specific location of the berm area referenced in the correspondence.

D. Zimmermann also provided an update on the land owned by Waukesha County at the northerly end of the Golf Course stream project area. He distributed a map showing the proposed project area to all Commissioners for clarification. Waukesha County Land Use staff had provided a report noting County staff would be responsible for clearing invasive species and repairing streambank erosion as needed around the stream near Cottonwood Ct.. Staff had conducted a site visit in March but there was too much snow cover to determine the extent of erosion. A follow-up site visit would take place soon and more information would be available at a future Commission meeting.

K. Carr stated she had observed the golf course after recent rainfall and noticed a good deal of flooding on the course. There was a difference from previous events in that the water flowing in the creek was flowing strongly but did not look full of mud as in years past. She will continue to observe the flowage in the next few months.

10. Update on Revised Buffer Strip Plan for Property Adjacent to Golf Course Stream

D. Zimmermann explained the property owner adjacent to the buffer strip continued to work on planting the appropriate buffer. County Staff would provide an update upon completion.

11. Update on DNR Commercial Fisherman Activities on Lac La Belle

Ben Heussner, Wisconsin DNR/ Waukesha County Fisheries Biologist, was present. He explained the commercial fisherman responsible for removing rough fish from Lac La Belle had recently completed his contract; thus, no fishing had taken place in the winter months. B. Heussner anticipated he would be fishing Lac La Belle in the fall. This was good news from a fisheries standpoint as removal of rough fish would enhance the current fishery status. The DNR would monitor the commercial fishing taking place and also would provide a copy of the contract to the LLBMD.

Waukesha County Fisheries Staff also hoped to be out on Lac La Belle in upcoming months to seine net fish and conduct a fish survey.

12. Update on Proposed Fish Limits from Ben Heussner, WDNR Fisheries Biologist

B. Heussner explained efforts were underway by the Wisconsin DNR regarding newly proposed fishing regulations. The last time he had attended a Commission meeting, he had shared proposed fishing regulations that the LLBMD had posted on the website. Feedback had been received regarding these proposed regulations, they were revised and newly proposed fishing regulations were being proposed for the 2015 Spring Public Hearings. The newly proposed regulations change current regulations related to walleye and northern pike in Lac La Belle. The newest proposal included a 28 inch minimum length limit with a daily limit of one for walleye and a 40 inch minimum length limit with a daily bag limit of one for northern pike. He also noted Lac La Belle was a unique lake and required additional regulation in comparison with some other area lakes due to the amount of rough fish in the lake and resulting poor water quality. The DNR continued to use bio-manipulation strategies, which meant that in management of fish in area lakes efforts were made to maximize the large toothy predators that could eat the smaller fish. This effort, combined with removal of rough fish, would result in better water quality for all fish.

P. Carpenter questioned how long it might take to determine a positive result from the proposed regulations. B. Heussner explained the timeline for review and noted it would take approximately 10 years to determine growth potential as a result of any changes to the fishery regulations. P. Carpenter questioned whether these regulatory changes would deter anyone from fishing Lac La Belle recreationally. B. Heussner stated the fisherman that enjoyed catch and release would be happy with the new regulatory changes more so than others. In fisheries management, it was important to maintain all lakes and to provide a variety of fishing opportunities for the public. Lac La Belle offered a good fit for catch and release fishing. B. Heussner explained that new fishing regulations were posted in rule pamphlets available to the public and would often be posted on signs near public access points. In addition, there would soon be a smart phone app that would allow anglers to click on a lake and review the fishing regulations for that lake on their phone. If anglers were looking for recommendations on which lake to visit for a certain fish species or fishing opportunity, B. Heussner suggested they contact a fisheries biologist at the DNR.

13. Update on Grant for Navigational Buoys on Lac La Belle

Commissioners discussed whether any municipality that touched the shoreline of LLB required additional buoys. K. Carr stated she would contact Village of Lac La Belle staff to determine if any buoys were needed or were for sale prior to proceeding. She would provide a report at the next Commission meeting.

14. Update on Printing and Lamination of the Lac La Belle Buoy Map

L. Morgan explained the buoy map was complete. Maps would be printed, laminated and distributed to various agencies for posting and further distribution. Buoy maps would be available at the public boat launch for review or request; however, they would not be distributed to each boat owner. A buoy map would be provided to all District residents in the 2014 LLBMD Spring newsletter and would be placed on the LLBMD website as well for reference.

15. Discuss & Act on 2014 Shoreland Restoration Program

K. Carr provided a brief summary of the timeline of activities associated with a potential 2014 Shoreland Restoration program.

L. Morgan moved to continue the Shoreland Restoration program for 2014 as conducted in previous years. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

16. Discuss & Act on 2014 Annual Meeting Date

L. Morgan moved to set the 2014 Annual Meeting date for August 21, 2014. K. Carr seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. All were in favor. Motion carried.

17. Update on 2014 LLBMD Spring Newsletter

S. Keefe, of Accurate Business Communications, Inc., distributed a draft of the 2014 LLBMD Spring newsletter to Commissioners for review and comment. Commissioners indicated consensus for distribution of the newsletter in the format presented with the understanding that a corrected version of the buoy map would be shared by L. Morgan for use prior to printing and distribution.

18. Updates on the LLBMD website

a. Topics for the website

S. Keefe stated information had been added to the website regarding the DNR approval of the winter lake level until April 15, 2014. No lake level reports had been distributed from March 15 to April 17. If anyone had new pictures to share for use on the website, they should be shared with S. Keefe through the contact page on the LLBMD website at www.llbmd.org.

19. Set Next Meeting Date

The next meeting would be held on Thursday, May 15 at 7:00 P.M. at the Town of Oconomowoc Town Hall.

20. Agenda Topics for Next Meeting

The following topics were suggested for inclusion on the next meeting agenda:

- Update on 2014 Shoreland Restoration program
- Update on 2014 Goose Round Up
- Update on Cooperative Streambank Restoration Project - Golf Course Stream
- Update on Drain on the North Side of Lang Road
- Update on Navigational Buoys on Lac La Belle

Without objection from the Commission, P. Carpenter returned to Item 9 on the agenda at this time.

K. Carr questioned whether the field drain north of Lang Road was part of the Cooperative Streambank Restoration project. L. Morgan stated the Town of Oconomowoc typically had right of way in the area where the drain was located. D. Zimmermann stated he would request clarification on this topic from County Staff and provide information at a future Commission meeting.

21. Adjournment

K. Carr moved to adjourn from the meeting. L. Morgan seconded the motion. All were in favor. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 8:26 P.M.

Minutes prepared by:

Accurate Business Communications, Inc.